



## water & sanitation

Department:  
Water and Sanitation  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

### INTERNET ARTICLE

#### **DWS cleans Seshego Dam and Blood River as part of Mandela Day celebrations.**

**19 July 2017**

On Tuesday, the 18<sup>th</sup> July 2017, the Department of Water and Sanitation together with Coca-Cola Beverages South Africa and Lepelle Northern Water was joined by the Polokwane Local Municipality in cleaning the Seshego Dam and Blood River as part of the Clear River Campaign which coincided with the Nelson Mandela Day celebrations.

After realising that most community members are not aware of the dangers of polluting our water resources, the department decided to take this year's campaign to educate the community of Seshego and surrounding areas and also clean the Seshego dam as it is the most polluted amongst the dams in the province. It is also very critical with regard to the recreational opportunities it provides to the communities. The dam is surrounded by a park which is used for recreation mostly on weekends.

Addressing the community and the media, Limpopo's Regional Head, Lesiba Tloubatla emphasised the need for the community to make sure they do not dump dirt on the river banks as that will end up in the dam and pollute the water in the process.

“South Africa is a water scarce country. Therefore, there is a need for water security, particularly in the face of global climate change and a multitude of anthropogenic impacts affecting our rivers. Hence, the calls for a national and unified approach to protect our rivers, dams, wetlands and broader catchments, such that all people can benefit from the added-value products of healthy rivers and can have access to clean water for basic human needs and water for economic development”, said Mr Tloubatla.

**Malope Matlou**